

February 26, 1976

SENATOR SYAS: No, it isn't.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Are you going to try to set down a policy position for the state?

SENATOR SYAS: Yes, you bet that we are going to look at these various sites, Ft. Robinson is just one that I happened to mention.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Did you look at it last year?

SENATOR SYAS: Ft. Robinson? But this didn't come up last year for the simple reason that the committee didn't take it up because you were having the state study it, Mattes, or whatever his name is.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate Senator Syas' comments. If Senator Dworak has anything to add to that or correct it, he can certainly jump in later, but I would have a few comments to make now myself.

Mr. Chairman, I certainly think that it is a serious matter when you try to discharge a bill from committee. I do think that we have an obligation in terms of legislative direction and a solution of the same. Lets start out with a full acknowledgement of this. That we spent \$25,000 of tax payers money, in quest of a solution. In quest of that solution there was a cooperative effort between the Historical Society, Economic Development, Game and Parks, and the University of Nebraska. Now we got a study, done rather well. Presented to the committee, even down to the fine line points of suggesting legislative proposal. Now, what we are going to do with this \$25,000 study is still to throw it down and pick up another one. Now, no one has suggested whether those recommendations are valid or not. No one has suggested in terms of the committee whether or not they took those into consideration. I know and I have received mail just like you do that we have got a very serious problem. It seems strange in the state when we are trying to develop in this Bicentennial Year the historical significance of the state that we can't get together and set down a policy of how to do that and who is doing it. I think that the issue is entitled to have full floor debate. I rise to support Senator Bereuter.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. A question of Senator Syas. Senator Syas, the question specifically is that in all of this smoke is it possible that part of the problem lies in the fact that we do not have a park department?

SENATOR SYAS: Park Department? Well I think that we do have a Park Department, but of course you are going to have to come up with a better question explaining what you're asking me. We have a Park Department. It is Nebraska Game and Park Commission. I think that you have something hiding in the weeds there that you are trying to ask me, but you haven't asked me.

SENATOR KELLY: No, the point that I am talking about and I am not hiding in the weeds, and I appreciate your answer because